



October 20

I am Forgiven

Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: The Lord's Prayer- Matthew 6:9-14

Bottom Line: I Can Ask for Forgiveness

Leader Context: Jesus taught people how to pray. He showed us that we can pray by talking to God and asking Him for things like forgiveness, provision, and protection. We can be confident that when we talk to God, He listens. When we ask for forgiveness, He always says, yes.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

Social

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, Paper (several), Pencil (1 per child), Small classroom toys and objects (several), Timer or stopwatch (1 per group)

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

Raise your hand and say, "I can ask for forgiveness!" (I can ask for forgiveness!) Great! You're right! We can always ask God for forgiveness. You can put your hands back down. What a great Bible story! Jesus spent time loving and teaching people. He showed the crowd how to talk to God in prayer. God is always ready to listen and always hears us when we talk to Him. When we make wrong choices and sin, we can pray to God and ask Him to forgive us.

Videos

Gospel Connection:

(Circle two) Sometimes we try to do good things or work hard to fix our sin and wrong choices by ourselves. We may think, *If I just work hard enough, I will be a good person and it will cancel out the wrong things I do.* But that's not how forgiveness works. Our sin has broken our relationship with God, so we can never be good enough to fix that relationship. We need to ask God for help. That means confessing or admitting our sin to God and asking God for forgiveness.

(Circle one) When God created the world, He created it perfectly and designed people to follow Him and have a relationship with Him. He never wanted people to be separated from Him.

(Circle three) So, God made a way to fix our broken relationship! He sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sin. Jesus lived a perfect life—the way that God designed—and then died, taking the punishment that we deserve because of sin. Jesus came back to life, showing that He's more powerful than both sin and death! **(Circle Four)** Now, when we believe that Jesus took the punishment for our sin and ask God to forgive us, we can have a forever relationship with God! He helps us say no to sin and start living the way He designed!

No matter what we have done, no matter what we have said, no matter who we have hurt, God made a way for us to be forgiven through Jesus. Say, **"I can ask for forgiveness!" (I can ask for forgiveness!)** When we trust and follow God, we can always talk to Him through prayer and continue to ask to for forgiveness every day.

If you have any questions about what it means to ask God for forgiveness, ask me or your Campus Leader. We would love to talk with you and help you understand what it means to have a relationship with God. He loves you so much, and you can always talk to Him!

Pumpkin Picking (20 minutes)

Supplies: Buckets (6 per group), Table tennis balls (several), Table (1 per group), Large trash can (1 per group)

Leader Prep: Fill each bucket with table tennis balls, one bucket for each team. Set the buckets on the table. Place the trash can in front of the table.

Leader Tip: Consider decorating the buckets to look like pumpkins.

Game Rules:

1. Invite one player from each team to the front.
2. Say, "Go!" Players will use one hand to "clean out" their "pumpkin" by scooping out the table tennis balls and putting them in the trash can.
3. Declare the first person to empty the bucket as the winner.

Say: At this time of year, pumpkins are used for decorations, and some people even like to clean out their pumpkins and roast pumpkin seeds! Today, we are going to clean out our own "pumpkins!" In a game called "Pumpkin Picking!" What's it called? *(Pumpkin Picking!)* I need one player from each team to join me up front. *(Invite players to the front.)*

On my signal, players will clean out these pumpkins by scooping out the table tennis balls inside. But we're going to switch it up! What are we going to do? *(Switch it up!)* Here's how we will switch it up: you can only use one hand! The first player to clean out your pumpkin wins. If your pumpkin falls over before you clean it out, you are out. If you've got it, say, "I've got it!" *(I've got it!)* Teams, get ready to cheer for your player! Players, face your pumpkins! Ready, set, go!

Keep It Going: Play a second round where new players race to "fill up the pumpkin." Pour out some of the table tennis balls and instruct players to race by picking up table tennis balls and putting them back into the buckets. The player with the most table tennis balls back in the bucket wins!

Cleaning out pumpkins reminds me of forgiveness. Ask me, “Why?” (Why?) We all have sin inside us. Sin is when we choose to do what we think is best instead of following what God says is best. Our sin breaks our relationship with God. But when God forgives us, it’s like He scoops that sin right out. He fixes what was broken and gives us a new identity—child of God. Say, “Wow!” (Wow!) That’s right! When we trust and follow God, we can know we are forgiven! Say, “I am forgiven!” (I am forgiven!)

Discussion Questions:

What To Do: Let’s talk about our Bible story and how God switched it up through Jesus!

1. What are some things you need help with? Who do you ask to help you? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
2. When you see someone raise a hand, it usually means that person has a question or needs help. We can talk to God and ask Him for help too! What can we ask God when we make wrong choices and sin? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
3. The Bible tells us that we can ask God for forgiveness, and He will always listen. Let’s open our Bibles to **Matthew 6:9-13** and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* Do you think it is always easy to ask for forgiveness when you do something wrong? How can it help to remember that Jesus told us we can ask for forgiveness and God will listen? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
4. Our relationship with God is broken because of sin, and there nothing we can do to fix it. But Jesus can! God switched it up by having Jesus take the punishment for our sin so we could have a relationship with Him. What can you ask Jesus or what can you say to Him? *(I can ask for forgiveness. I can say thank you. I can ask God to help me trust and follow Him. I can tell God sorry for my sin.)* What can you ask a friend when you’ve made a mistake or caused a hurt? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
5. The Bible tells us we can ask God for forgiveness. God switches it up and offers us forgiveness! When we trust and follow Jesus, we can know we are forgiven. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)* Let’s talk to God by praying. *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

Thank You, God, for sending Jesus and for teaching us how to pray. Thank You for always listening to us and being ready to forgive when we ask. We cannot fix our relationship with You, so thank You for sending Jesus so we can be forgiven. We love you! Amen.

In today’s Bible story, we learned that Jesus taught the people how to pray and ask for forgiveness. We can talk to God anytime and ask Him for forgiveness, knowing He is ready to forgive us because He loves us!

Going Home

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.